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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
BOOKS OF THE COMING YEAR	155
PUBLISHER AND PUBLIC. <i>H. W. Boynton</i>	156
COMMUNICATION	158
<i>Herbert Spencer on Dreams. P. F. B.</i>	
ZOLA, NOVELIST AND REFORMER. <i>Martin W. Sampson</i>	159
THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION. <i>Henry E. Bourne</i>	161
AMERICAN EXPLORATION CLASSICS. <i>Edwin E. Sparks</i>	164
A QUAKER PRINTER AND MAN OF ACTION. <i>Percy F. Bicknell</i>	165
PROBLEMS OF THE AMERICAN CITY. <i>Charles Zuehlke</i>	167
THE CURRENCY QUESTION IN RETROSPECTIVE. <i>M. B. Hammond</i>	168
BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS	170
A delightful biography of Miss Edgeworth. — Some new Biblical plays. — The story of chamber music. — French romantic writers of the last century. — A book on 17th century manners. — Literature of the dark ages. — Memorial volume to Clarence King. — Rossetti as an English Man of Letters. — History of the beginnings of Music.	
BRIEFER MENTION	173
NOTES	173
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FALL BOOKS	174
(A classified list of books announced for publication during the coming Fall and Winter season.)	

BOOKS OF THE COMING YEAR.

Once more the publishers have sent out their lists of books to be issued during the fall and winter season now beginning, and once more from these lists (printed complete elsewhere in the present number) we attempt a brief survey of their more striking features, indicating a few of the titles that seem to offer the promise of exceptional interest and importance. This bird's-eye view is confined, as heretofore, to a few categories only; for the most part, to the sections of history and biography, poetry and fiction, and the history and criticism of literature.

The book of the year — when any one book may fairly be thus designated — is more likely to be found in the section of biography and memoirs than anywhere else. The coming year offers many works of this class that cannot fail to prove deeply interesting, although none seems to have quite the importance of Morley's Gladstone or Spencer's Autobiography — to mention two conspicuous works of the year recently past. We are inclined to think that the promised 'Autobiography, Memories, and Experiences' of Mr. Moncure D. Conway will turn out to be the most valuable publication of the season in this department; certainly it will have the deepest sort of interest for American readers. Mr. Conway is one of the few surviving members of the group of writers and thinkers whose work embodies the finest traditions of our national development, and, although he has spent many years abroad, he has never ceased to be one of us in spirit, or to hold courageously to the older ideals of character and conduct that now seem in danger of becoming obsolete factors in our life. The only other work likely to vie in personal interest with Mr. Conway's Autobiography will be the collection of letters written by John Ruskin to Mr. Charles Eliot Norton. These we have already been permitted to read, in part, through the medium of 'The Atlantic Monthly,' and they reveal the lovable personality of the writer more clearly than it has ever before been shown to us. Other important works of biography include the 'Recollections and Letters of General Lee,' Admiral Schley's 'Forty-Five Years under the Flag,' 'An Irishman's Story,' by Mr. Justin McCarthy, the 'Life and Letters of Mandell Creighton,' a new memoir of Aubrey de Vere, and Alfred Vizetelly's life of Zola. A series of 'French Men of Letters,' which we trust may have better luck than

the one started some years ago, will begin most auspiciously with a volume on Balzac by M. Brunetière.

The approaching completion of three full centuries of England in the New World seems to be stimulating the production of a number of American histories on a large scale. Two new works of this character appear in our present list. One is by Dr. Edward Channing, in an unspecified number of volumes, and the other, in ten volumes, is by Messrs. W. E. Chancellor and F. W. Hewes. Both of these works should prove important additions to our apparatus for the furtherance of historical information. In this connection we should also mention the extraordinary recent activity, which shows no signs of abatement, in the reprinting, under careful editorial supervision, of documentary matter relating to our early history. Among the more ambitious new enterprises of this sort we may call attention to the promised editions of Cartier, of Lahontan's 'New Voyages,' of Gass's 'Journal,' and of the 'Early Western Travels' series. Of history other than American, we find promised fewer important works than usual, and none that deserves to be singled out for special mention.

The section of literary history and criticism offers many items of interest, although none of first-rate importance. We note with pleasure the volumes of essays announced by Mr. Bliss Perry, Mr. H. W. Boynton, and Mr. Paul Elmer More. The essay in this country would be in a bad way were it not for 'The Atlantic Monthly,' and without the encouragement of that magazine these three volumes, in particular, might never have been written. Other volumes of essays are Mr. Brander Matthews's 'Recreations of an Anthologist,' 'Literary Leaders of America' by Mr. Richard Burton, 'Lectures and Essays' by the late Canon Ainger, and 'Routine and Ideals' by Mr. LeBaron R. Briggs. Among works having a greater unity of content we note 'The Italian Poets since Dante,' by Dr. William Everett; 'The Temper of the Seventeenth Century in English Literature,' by Professor Barrett Wendell; 'The Principles and Progress of English Poetry,' by Messrs. C. M. Gayley and C. C. Young; 'Lectures on Greek Literature,' by Mr. S. H. Butcher; and 'Russian Literature,' by Prince Kropotkin. The 'Wampum Library of American Literature,' edited by Mr. Brander Matthews, is a new enterprise of which three volumes are now ready. Each of the volumes has a special editor, and comprises representative examples of some particular literary *genre*, such as society verse, the short story, and literary criticism. This last topic reminds us to say that the third and final volume of Mr. Saintsbury's 'History of Criticism' is about ready to appear.

Novels in the usual numbers are scheduled for early publication. Among the most promising titles are the following: 'The Last Hope,' by the late Henry Seton Merriman; 'The Undercurrent,' by Mr. Robert Grant; 'The Golden Bowl,' by Mr. Henry James; 'A Ladder of Swords,' by Sir Gilbert Parker; 'Guthrie of the Times,' by Mr. Joseph A. Altsheler; 'The Seeker,' by Mr. Harry Leon Wilson; 'Hearts in Exile,' by Mr. John Oxenham; 'The Betrayal,' by Mr. E. Phillips Oppenheim; 'The Loves of Miss Anne,' by Rev. S. R. Crockett; 'The Farm of the Dagger,' by Mr. Eden Philpotts; 'Beatrice of Venice,' by Mr. Max Pemberton; 'Double Harness,' by Mr. Anthony Hope Hawkins; 'The Brethren,' by Mr. Rider Haggard; 'Whoever Shall Offend,' by Mr. F. Marion Crawford; 'The Common Lot,' by Mr. Robert Herrick; 'Sabrina Warham,' by Mr. Laurence Housman; 'Helianthus,' by 'Ouida'; 'The Prodigal Son,' by Mr. Hall Caine; 'An Ark in Backwater,' by Mr. E. F. Benson; 'My Lady of the North,' by Mr. Randall Parrish; 'New Samaria,' by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell; and 'The Abbess of Vlaze,' by Mr. Stanley Weyman.

The poetical drama is to be illustrated by 'Miriam; or, The Sin of David,' by Mr. Stephen Phillips, and 'William Shakespeare, Pedagogue and Poacher,' by Dr. Richard Garnett. There will also be a volume of new 'Poems and Plays,' by Mr. W. B. Yeats. Attractive books of new verse are to be offered by the Rev. Henry van Dyke, Mr. Frank Dempster Sherman, and Miss Edith M. Thomas. More important than any of these volumes is, of course, the volume of new poems by Mr. Swinburne. And in this connection, we may say a word of the new uniform edition of Mr. Swinburne's complete poems (exclusive of the dramas) to be published in six volumes. This long-promised collection has been one of the greatest of literary *desiderata* for many years, and we are inclined to believe, all things considered, that no other announcement for the coming season equals this in interest and importance. For the first time, the entire lyrical work of the greatest poet now living in the world is to be made really accessible to readers in general.

PUBLISHER AND PUBLIC.

Probably most people think of the publishing business as invested with a kind of dignity which sets it a little apart from other trades. Publishers' offices are notoriously haunted by college boys anxious to be admitted to a calling of semi-literary character which yet promises a competency. They dream happily of bearing a torch in one hand and a bag of the ready in the other. There is indeed an opportunity in publishing, an

aspect of it, which cannot be defined in business terms. Yet it is only an aspect. Popular tradition to the contrary, it is not more natural for a publisher to be a disinterested patron of the literary art than for him to be a grinding commercial person. Undoubtedly most publishers desire to put forth some good literature; none who have to do with new books can even attempt to publish nothing but good literature.

Of course 'the publisher' does not mean what it once meant. The paternal publisher has taken his place with the Grub Street bookseller among relics of the past. A modern publishing house does its work by modern business methods. It has its head; but the detail goes to separate departments, manned by specially trained crews. Its left hand does not always know what its right hand is doing,—a fact which occasionally leads to complications between business motives and methods and others. Delicate adjustments are often necessary between editorial and business offices. But the general policy will be much like that which governs other commercial enterprises: to turn out as good an article as possible, and to dispose of it at as good a price as possible. As a rule, the publisher is doubtless sincere in desiring to put forth what is, according to some reasonable standard, really worth publishing. The nicer problems of the trade turn upon the question as to how such a standard shall be determined and maintained.

There are four classes of books ordinarily found on the lists of the modern publisher of the best type: (1) useful books, whether new or reprinted, which make no claim to the possession of literary quality; (2) reprints of work which time has determined to be the product of literary art; (3) new books which make some claim to literary quality, but for the publication of which there are strong practical reasons, such as timeliness, fitness for a special audience, and so on; (4) new books which can hardly be expected to do more than 'pay expenses,' but which are published for their literary merit. The last-named class is necessarily small; the fact of its existence is a credit to the publisher. The first two classes suggest no serious problems. It is in connection with the third class that a more delicate question arises. At this point the publisher ceases to be the purveyor of a commodity the value of which is determinable. Many books belong, as we have seen, to this class. Like shoes or soap, they are articles which the public specifically needs, and upon which it sets a specific value. With such books, when official analysis has proved them fit for their purpose, the publisher can afford to approach his public. If his services were to end there, they would be considerable, and calculable. The uncertainties of the trade inhere in its obligation, or its fatality, of dealing with certain books which possess at least an hypothetical status as works of art.

It appears to be a perfectly tenable position, though perhaps not a lofty one, that a work of art, having been put upon the market, becomes a purely commercial article, and must take its chances with other commercial articles. The dealer in works of art is, let us say, without spe-

cial obligations to the public. He exhibits proper objects for sale, and charges such prices for them as are commonly set upon such objects. Mistakes may occur, but it is his main purpose to offer only articles which are worth buying. The standard will be somewhat roughly estimated; refinements of discrimination in such matters must be left to the connoisseur and the critic. For the rest, the publishing-house has a right to put its best foot forward in advancing the sale of its own wares; it cannot be expected to be colorlessly judicial in expressing its good opinion of them. The persons or committees by whose advice a given book has been accepted for publication may express themselves in private with a good deal of reservation as to its absolute literary merit. Public utterances of opinion rarely come direct from them. In a general way, they furnish material for the functionaries whose special business it is to advertise, directly or indirectly, the books of the house. Such reverberations of editorial judgment can hardly retain much critical quality. The estimate of the given book which eventually goes forth as the opinion of the house may be, as a gentleman well acquainted with publishing said recently in private conversation, 'an opinion of an opinion of an opinion.' The final version is naturally optimistic. If a book has been found good enough for the firm to publish, it is merely human for individuals in the employ of the firm to take for granted that it is a very good book indeed. They may know little or nothing of the grounds upon which it was accepted.

These grounds may have been, in the main, other than literary, even when the book seems to fall within a literary category. For example: Suppose a novel written about a young Mormon whose career is made difficult, and interesting, by complications arising from his birth through polygamy. The publishers might accept it for some such reasons as these: (1) It is timely, because the question of polygamy has just come before the nation, perhaps for the last time; (2) there is nothing of this kind at present in the market; (3) the subject is treated so adroitly that the book ought to reach a large special audience of liberal Mormons as well as the general audience of citizens who have just been excited against Mormonism; (4) it is written by So-and-so, whose other novels have had such-and-such a sale; (5) it is creditable in point of form, with at least as good a chance of surviving the year as the average novel. It seems, indeed, to have some pretensions to literary merit.

As soon as the book is accepted, it becomes a part of this firm's stock in trade. It is advanced, noticed and put through the press with a solicitude lively in proportion to the expectations of its sales. It grows to be an article of faith with the house, so that before it is fairly upon the market it may be figuring in advertisements as the literary feat of the year, decade, or century. There is no moral issue here. Modern methods of advertising do not prescribe, or permit, delicacy or accuracy of expression. It is the publisher's affair, if he chooses to stultify himself over his signature. So far as his utterance of opinion is

restricted to advertising space, it need not be challenged, either as to substance or as to form, except on grounds of taste. It is because the coarse method pays that, as Mr. Birrell says, publishers 'continue to extol the often secret charms of their kept authors with an enthusiasm almost indelicate.'

But the publisher's opinion fails to confine itself to advertising space; and it is at this point that his practice lays itself open to exception on other grounds than those of taste. As a dealer in works of art, he has, we have liberally admitted, no special obligations toward the public—unless, we may add, it be that he should be scrupulous to the utmost in fathering his positive recommendations. For the existence of the 'reading-notice' or 'literary note' as now employed by the publisher, no adequate apology has as yet been offered. These notes are prepared in the publisher's offices by specially detailed persons. They are put up in convenient form for direct insertion in the newspaper columns. There is nothing in them to suggest to the uninitiated that they are not the work of the editorial staff. Indeed, not a little ingenuity is expended upon giving them a casual flavor; and it is evident that their value for advertising purposes depends upon the inconspicuousness, to put it mildly, of their origin. The specific object in view is to call attention to a particular book, by a particular author, issued by a particular publishing-house. One or two of the parties in the enterprise commonly go unmentioned; this suggests an editorial indifference to the mere convenience of the publisher which is effective in producing the desired illusion.

Reading-notices are nominally of two kinds: those which give information, and those which express opinion. In truth, they shade imperceptibly into each other. The information notice in its best form gives statements of fact which may reasonably be expected to add to one's legitimate knowledge of an author or a book. One may find something dubious in the apparition of any paragraph of unpaid-for advertising made to look like a product of editorial industry or curiosity. But important news-items directly concern the public, and if the publisher is in a position to get such facts he is right to pass them on to the newspaper; he may even act as assistant editor as far as to word the items in question. They should possess some intrinsic importance. Too often they are statements of trivial fact framed for the sake of keeping the name of a man or a book before the public eye. 'The other day,' says Mr. Birrell, 'I read this announcement: "The memoir of Dr. Berry, of Wolverhampton, will bear the simple title, Life of the Rev. C. A. Berry, D.D." Heavens! what other title could it bear?' Such a note has comparative ingenuousness, at least. I have been assured by a person of experience that the more delicate successes in the art of reading-notice composition are due to skill in giving a statement of fact the effect of a criticism.

Here we approach what is evidently a question of elementary ethics rather than of elementary taste. Let us strain a point, and admit that

for the statement of facts publisher and editor have a practical right to exchange good offices,—the publisher getting valuable advertising for nothing, the editor getting his columns filled for nothing, and the reader getting whatever he can for a consideration. Is it possible to extend our complaisance to expressions of critical opinion, the source of which is left, to say the least, equivocal? Publishers do not hesitate to admit that they set more value on the reading-notice than on regular advertising; the reasons for which fact are matters for consideration, but hardly for surmise. Probably there is no occasion for protest. We can only recognize the fact with regret that no trade, whatever its traditional associations and ideals, can now get on comfortably without some little trick warranted to extract that last indispensable drop of profit from a public which is, on the whole, well content to pay tribute whenever a creditable degree of skill is shown in the levy. H. W. BOYNTON.

COMMUNICATION.

HERBERT SPENCER ON DREAMS.

(To the Editor of THE DIAL.)

Among the many personal reminiscences leading the author into speculative inquiry, which render Herbert Spencer's 'Autobiography' so attractive to thoughtful readers, occurs this sentence in connection with the writer's occasional use of opium to induce sleep:—'In ordinary dreams, thoughts which seem valuable or witty, turn out on awaking to be nonsensical or inane; but in morphia dreams there sometimes arise thoughts which would not discredit the waking state.' He then relates (vol. 2, pp. 205-6) a dream of the latter sort, which without being brilliantly witty is far more coherent than most unassisted dreams. Yet I think it may be capable of demonstration that the 'pipe dream' is, as a rule, far more wildly extravagant and absurdly nonsensical than the natural dream. At any rate, I venture to believe I can match the synthetic philosopher's morphia dream with a recent one of my own, experienced under natural conditions; but of course I cannot make a perfectly impartial comparison of the two. In my dream a college professor was examining in Roman history a student who persisted in mispronouncing proper names, as,—Rom-u-lus, Hann-i-bal, Call-g-u-la (accent always on the penult). At last the professor lost patience. 'Young man,' said he severely, 'unless you take care you will Ci-ce-ro [see zero] as the result of this examination.' I should add that the student's blunders did not remain so clear in my memory, on awaking, as the professor's punning admonition; but that the unhappy youth had sinned against the rules of quantity I was left in no doubt. Thus I had to reconstruct the first part of my dream a very little; otherwise I have related it as it occurred. Perhaps some of your readers can give similar or better instances of dreams wherein the god of sleep has not made such fools of his devotees as it must be confessed, to our humiliation, he too often does. P. F. B.

Malden, Mass., Sept. 8, 1904.

*The New Books.***ZOLA, NOVELIST AND REFORMER.***

The life of Zola by Mr. Vizetelly may naturally be regarded as the official English biography of the remarkable man, half Italian, half French, who won the attention of his epoch and finally forced criticism to take him as seriously as he took himself. It was the Vizetelly publishing house that brought out Zola in English translation; and the younger Vizetelly, the present biographer, was the novelist's trusted friend. He speaks with undoubted authority regarding the facts of Zola's career, and has obviously at his command far more material than he has cared to use. The book he has produced is in part satisfying, and in part not. In a clear and interesting way, the main facts of Zola's life are told; from the pages before him one can gain a perfectly definite idea of Zola the man. The book does not pretend to literary criticism, save in so far as criticism is often needed to explain details of the man's life; for Zola, of course, was essentially a writer, and his life-blood is in his books. There is, then, much explanation of general and special purposes of Zola's work, and the explanation is offered with candid enthusiasm. On the other hand, the book fails of being an adequate biography, partly because the writer is rather sparing of the minor personal details we have come to regard as our right in biography, partly because he has a thesis to prove—the essential morality of Zola and the failure of the English public to appreciate that morality,—and partly because he has not himself the artist's power of presenting his subject with due sense of proportion and of values. But over-emphasis reacts rather upon the writer than upon his subject: though one objects to the method, he must acknowledge that the writer has made his point. So if a certain didacticism leads Mr. Vizetelly to drive home with undue energy the fact that Zola was a most conscientious worker and a man of absolute devotion to his literary ideals, the reader after all is left with the correct notion in his mind; and this is no small matter. Mr. Vizetelly has no other charm of style than that of fluent sincerity, and he is handicapped by the fact that he holds a brief for his father's publishing-house, which took up Zola at a time when to publish Zola meant, as it happened, fine and imprisonment. But with all his drawbacks, the biographer has produced a volume which tempts one to the paradox that if the

book is not definitive, it nevertheless makes a definitive book unnecessary.

We have before us, then, the life of a man who believed in the gospel of work, and who, having found out what he wanted to do, did the thing relentlessly. The Italian strain in Zola explains a great deal,—the man's insight, his large conceptions, his strong feelings, his tenacity. His career was one involving much hardship, the bitterness of neglect, the difficult search for the right medium of utterance, the antagonism of those who might have been his intellectual helpers, and, above all, the unyielding pursuit of the ideal. It was a career that closed in a moral triumph, a life that pre-eminently deserves study.

To begin at the beginning, it is no wonder that Zola should have believed in heredity, since he saw it at work in his own nature. The father, Francesco (afterwards François) Zola, was a Venetian who came to France about 1830. He was a military engineer, full of great projects for which he ceaselessly sought a hearing. If but few of his larger schemes came to maturity, it was doubtless because he was in advance of his time. Projects for the docks at Marseilles, for the fortification of Paris, were not accepted; but Mr. Vizetelly makes it fairly clear that the elder Zola's ideas have been wholly justified by time, while the plans that were used instead have proved inadequate. A project that ultimately succeeded was the 'Zola canal,' which supplies Aix with water. Intellectual capacity and untiring aptitude for work were the father's chief bequest to his son (born in 1840), for premature death left a family provided with but scant resources. The mother,—of the small tradesman class, one generation away from the sturdy peasantry,—sought to give a fitting education to her son, fatherless at the age of seven; while at the same time she did her best to protect her interests in the yet unfulfilled canal scheme. Unjust treatment was accorded her, and a life of struggle followed her failure to establish her claims.

Zola's earliest school-days were days of truancy; but from the boy's twelfth year, the college period in Aix reads like a Sunday-school story. All the important constituents are there: the widow's son, industrious and excellent above his classmates, winning prize after prize in an imposing series, showing ability in all directions, and being 'guided by one simple, self-imposed rule, a rule which he carried into his after-life, and which largely proved the making of him. He did not eschew play and other recreations, he did not spend interminable hours in poring over books, there was nothing "goody-goody" about him; but he

* EMILE ZOLA, NOVELIST AND REFORMER. An Account of his Life and Work. By Ernest Alfred Vizetelly. Illustrated. New York: John Lane.

invariably learnt his lessons, prepared his exercises, before he went to play.' More surprising than this is the choice at seventeen of a scientific course rather than a literary one, although the boy was now a maker of verse, and under the spell of Victor Hugo and of de Musset; and more surprising still is the fact that in Paris, whither his mother had removed in the vain hope of bettering the family fortunes, the former prize-winner, now on a scholarship at the Lycée of St. Louis, remained among the mediocre, and finally failed to win his degree. He was now twenty, discredited, and penniless; and after trying his hand at a clerkship in the customs at two francs a day, he went back to his literary attempts, mostly verse, and began a Grub-street existence. His mother had no longer enough income for two to live upon, and Zola lived alone, often in the winter,

'Fireless, shivering in bed, with every garment he possesses piled over his legs, and his fingers red with the cold while he writes his verses with the stump of a pencil. . . . His great desire when he awakes of a morning is to procure that day, by hook or crook, the princely sum of three sous in order that he may buy a candle for his next evening's work. At times he is in despair: he is forced to commit his lines to memory during the long winter night, for lack of the candle which would have enabled him to confide them to paper. . . . It was then, as he afterward told Guy de Maupassant, that he lived for days together on a little bread, which, in Provençal fashion, he dipped in oil; that he set himself to catch sparrows from his window, roasting them on a curtain rod; that he "played the Arab," remaining indoors for a week at a time, draped in a coverlet, because he had no garments to wear. . . . He often used to say in after-life that the only coat he possessed in that year of misery ended by fading from black to a rusty green. Thus, when he went hither and thither soliciting employment, he was very badly received. "I gathered that people thought me too shabby. I was told, too, that my handwriting was very bad; briefly, I was good for nothing. . . . Good for nothing—that was the answer to my endeavours; good for nothing—unless it were to suffer, to sob, to weep over my youth and my heart. . . . I had grown up dreaming of glory and fortune, I awoke to find myself stranded in the mire."'

A turn of fortune in 1862 gave Zola a small clerkship, at a hundred francs monthly, in the publishing-house of Hachette; and he felt that he was saved. He now managed to get some of his writing into the newspapers; and in 1864 a volume of short stories met with acceptance, not by Hachette, but by another house. The first real turn of affairs had now come; here are Zola's words:

'The battle has been short, and I am astonished that I have not suffered more. I am now on the threshold: the plain is vast, and I may break my neck crossing it; but no matter,—as it only remains for me to march onward, I will march.'

To finish his first novel, 'La Confession de

Claude,' was the next thing to do; and incidentally he kept up a steady fire of newspaper criticism, earning perhaps two hundred francs a month by his pen. In 1865 'Claude' appeared, and Zola left Hachette's to devote himself entirely to writing. From now, until the days of the Dreyfus case, the story is mainly one of intellectual development and slowly improving worldly condition. It was not by any means all plain sailing: there were plays that were not accepted, ventures in art criticism arousing great partisan feeling, occasional serious diminutions in income; the earlier stories, though published, had not won their way; 'Thérèse Raquin' (1867) was the first real success.

Two years later, Zola entered into a contract to begin a series of novels dealing with the history of a whole family. In large measure, this 'Rougon-Macquart' series was his life-work; and it is highly characteristic of Zola that he completely finished the project, even though its final form included nearly twice as much as the original outline indicated. But the publisher's failure meant financial distress to the author, and postponement of the great scheme. Friends were made, and also enemies,—for Zola was outspoken in his literary criticism; and gradually the man made himself a place in the literary life of Paris. To the publisher Charpentier, Théophile Gautier, in speaking one evening of the young writers of the day, said: 'There is one among them who is very unlucky, and who is different from most of the others. You should admit him among your authors, my dear Charpentier. If I am not vastly mistaken, he possesses a touch of genius. His name is Emile Zola. Have you ever heard of him?' This little word of commendation turned out to be Zola's opportunity. Charpentier became his publisher, and the worldly battle was won at last. Zola was gradually coming to an understanding of the scope of such a series as that of the 'Rougon-Macquarts,' but in a special sense he perhaps hardly came into his own field until he wrote 'L'Assommoir.' This forced the issue. The vogue of the book, enormous for those days when a great sale meant actually interested readers, made it impossible to ignore the fact that the man had 'arrived.' Far from avoiding controversy, Zola invited it,—it made the vogue of his books greater, and his doctrine emerged into public attention. From this time forward, he had the centre of the stage. He finished at last his 'Rougon' series, and then projected new groups of novels, a didactic purpose becoming more and more evident as the years went on, until finally some of his work is but the form of fiction in the service

of a thesis. To discuss Zola's life during this period of his greatest success is to discuss his literary output, work by work; and this is out of the question here.

One comes now to Zola's share in the Dreyfus case. Mr. Vizetelly's account of this is full and adequate, presenting the facts fairly, it would seem, and arranging the material clearly. Zola's participation in the case was wholly impersonal: that is, he had no acquaintance with the Dreyfus family, but arrived at his conclusions from a sober study of the testimony that was accessible to him. Before he wrote the famous open letter to the President of the Republic, he had published in 'Figaro' a series of articles, temperately asking for a full inquiry. The clamor that ensued frightened the newspaper into stopping the articles. Zola then found a means of expression in pamphlets; and on becoming convinced finally that only some violent method could secure revision, he hit upon the plan of addressing a letter to President Faure, couching it in such words that for the honor of the nation the writer would have to be brought to trial and suffer the penalty of libel unless he could prove his charges. The matter is too recent to need recapitulation here; one may more fittingly compliment Mr. Vizetelly on his careful presentation of a rather intricate subject. That his explanation of Zola's attitude is correct admits of no doubt. The man was sincere and self-sacrificing, and events have shown that he was right.

Not the least interesting chapter in the volume is the one that tells in detail the story of the English publication of Zola. Mr. Vizetelly is speaking literally *pro domo sua*, and wins our sympathy, even if not our complete approbation. Here, however, and in the pages telling of a critical moral episode of Zola's life, Mr. Vizetelly protests too much, and not always with good taste; it would have been better to state the facts quietly and dispense with argument.

In the light of the full knowledge of Zola's life that this book gives, one gathers up anew his impressions of the man and the writer. One does not nowadays repeat Tennyson's word, 'the trough of Zolaism,' as a fair criticism; the man and his work are too significant to be dismissed with a contemptuous label. And yet, granting to the uttermost the moral purpose the author had in dealing with the horrors and uglinesses of life,—granting, as one easily may, that Zola wrote nothing for the sake of lubricity, and granting the right of literature to treat whatever is human,—the serious reader of Zola is likely to ask himself, What is the good of most of this? The

portrayal of vice rarely proves a deterrent: many of Zola's books undoubtedly sold simply because they seemed indecent; and one may doubt their disciplinary effect upon the purchasers. Those readers, on the other hand, who could apprehend the moral purpose under the repulsiveness, were in the main in no need of the lesson as such. So the question comes back, as always, to this: Has the work been done with the artistic control that creates the thing we call beauty? Much, perhaps most, of Zola's work will not stand such a test. One wonders, after all, how much, from a literary point of view, Zola's indefatigableness was futile: there are many dull and many hateful pages to answer for in the novels; nor is it over-likely that the novels will last. But it was due to his self-discipline in holding to the purpose of his novels, that Zola rose to his opportunity and rendered France the greatest of services, accusing French militarism of its crime. It may well be that this man of letters will occupy a higher place in the history of France than in her literature.

MARTIN W. SAMPSON.

THE CAMBRIDGE HISTORY OF THE FRENCH REVOLUTION.*

It is one of the good fashions in making books to furnish them not only with a serviceable index but also with bibliographies. Like the preceding volumes of the Cambridge Modern History, Volume VIII. contains long bibliographical lists. Would it not have been well to prefix to these an historical introduction,—a brief history of the histories of the Revolution, from Rabaut de St. Etienne's 'Précis' to Professor Aulard's 'Histoire Politique' or M. Jaurès' 'Histoire Sociale'? The Revolution was not one of those neutral events which a writer can describe without revealing himself. It was such a confused *mêlée* of prophetic ideals, deep-rooted habits, and ordinary passions, that its history has grown as men have grown, or as changes have come in literary forms or social theories. There has been a development in the conception of it capable of being treated historically, and which the 'general public' should understand, if this rather vague personage is to approach the subject intelligently.

When history is written on the coöperative plan, it must be difficult to distribute the material in such a way as to secure a sufficiently full consideration of special topics without drawing from the main stream too much of its

* THE CAMBRIDGE MODERN HISTORY. Planned by Lord Acton, LL.D. Edited by A. W. Ward, Litt.D., G. W. Prothero, Litt.D., and Stanley Leathes, M.A. Vol. VIII., The French Revolution. New York: The Macmillan Co.

force. In this volume the distribution has been made with good judgment, but one occasionally receives the impression that the writers have followed the programme too rigorously. Many things given their special setting in Professor Viollet's invaluable chapter on 'French Law in the Age of the Revolution' should be touched in the chapters on the Constituent, the Legislative Assembly, and the Convention; otherwise the importance of their work will be misconceived. Much the same may be said of financial affairs, described in a separate chapter by Mr. Henry Higgs. The 'General War,' the 'Naval War,' and foreign affairs prior to the 1795 treaties, are also, and necessarily, managed in special chapters, for each of these topics possesses a peculiar center of interest and its own line of development. At the same time the meddlesome policy of other states and their threats of war profoundly affected the course of the Revolution, and should be explained adequately in the general narrative even at the cost of some repetition. Mr. Moreton MacDonald, who writes on the Legislative and the Convention, should have conceded more to the menace on the frontier in his analysis of the origin of Revolutionary violence.

It is of more doubtful wisdom to divide, as is done here, the general narrative, — that is, in the main, the political history of the Revolution, — among four writers; for there is danger of a shifting of attitude which may confuse the reader. Of course such a division is explicable if it is suggested by the special researches of the writers themselves. MM. Lavisse and Rambaud, in the eighth volume of their 'Histoire Générale,' avoided the danger by assigning the whole to Professor Aulard, already distinguished for an unrivalled knowledge of the political history of the Revolution. In the present case, Mr. MacDonald's work on the later Assemblies is noticeably different in tone from Professor Montague's description of the Constituent; and the difference is not altogether accounted for by the fact that the subject becomes more repellent as the history of the Legislative and of the Convention proceeds. There is no such difference of tone or attitude between Mr. Fortescue's chapter on the Directory and Mr. Fisher's 'Brumaire.'

Among the noteworthy chapters of the volume are Professor Richard Lodge's 'European Powers and the Eastern Question' and the 'Extinction of Poland.' In the first he considers incidentally the earlier phases of Pitt's foreign policy described by Mr. Oscar Browning in a special chapter. His estimate of Pitt's influence is less emphatically eulogistic than Mr. Browning's; indeed, he seems to feel that the Emperor Leopold was the master diplomatist of 1790 and 1791. Equally noteworthy

are Dr. J. H. Rose's three chapters on the foreign war after General Bonaparte becomes the principal figure. Although this is largely the same ground which he covered in his recent biography of Napoleon I., the new account is in no sense a repetition of the other. But for an occasional turn of phrase or identity of conception, it would be difficult to recognize the relationship of the two.

No part of the work succeeds better in giving just the facts necessary for an exact understanding of the matters in hand than Professor Montague's chapters on the Old Régime and the period of the Constituent. They show everywhere a careful consideration of the results of recent researches, — those, for example, upon the much-debated question of the amount of land held by the peasants. The facts are not poured out in confusing masses, but their nature is luminously characterized in a paragraph or two, each word of which is almost a summary. Although the amount of attention granted to the Old Régime is questionable, when it is remembered that another volume of the series is to treat the Eighteenth Century, these two chapters could ill be spared. In some respects they are superior to those on the Constituent. It is instructive to see in detail into what an *impasse* the government had blundered by 1788. Strong statesmanship was needed in order that the King might recover that leadership in the nation's affairs which so many of his ancestors had held. A 'business man's administration,' such as Necker could give, was not the remedy.

Many of Professor Montague's characterizations of men or of assemblies are remarkably suggestive. After a few words on Mounier, Malouet, and Sieyès, he introduces Mirabeau in this fashion: 'But these men were presently overshadowed by one who had no recommendations save genius and courage, whose reputation was not far removed from infamy, and who, though it was impossible to despise or difficult to hate him, was deeply distrusted by almost all his colleagues.' Perhaps the machinery of such a sentence glitters too much, but it would be hard to construct anything better embodying the situation of Mirabeau at the opening of the States General. It is followed by a sketch, two or three pages long, which brings the man and his aims before the reader, and in which there is not a stroke or a touch that seems superfluous. Equally satisfactory is this lucid summary of the function of the States General, which Professor Montague has just been comparing with the English parliament: 'What had been true at first of all mediæval parliaments remained true of the States General to the end. The deputies remained agents in relation to their electors,

petitioners in relation to the King,' etc. Of the National Assembly he acutely remarks, 'It contained many excellent members of committee, but very few statesmen, and to these it rarely listened. No wonder, therefore, that it should have made many good laws but have failed entirely to govern.'

In these chapters there are few defects to be noted. One would hardly suspect, however, from Professor Montague's description of the decrees of August 4, that they constituted rather a programme of reform than a comprehensive piece of legislation. It is only in Professor Viollet's chapter that the matter is adequately explained. Furthermore, Professor Montague does not make clear the relation between the controversy over a second chamber and that upon the royal vote. He gives the impression also that the 'suspensive' veto was a weak form of veto, whereas it might hold back a project of law from three to six years. Largely moved by the necessity of compressing his descriptions of events, he has not furnished a clear account of the origin of October 5-6. He has also fallen into the error, corrected by Viollet on a later page, of saying that the Constituent abolished slavery in the colonies. This was done by the Convention.

The middle period of the Revolution is not described by Mr. Macdonald in so satisfying a manner. The real difficulty is that he has no sympathy with the France of those fatal years. Before the conclusion of his final chapter on the Constituent, the note of disappointment in Professor Montague's writing had ominously increased, but his sympathy did not fail. One turns the page and feels an atmosphere of hostile criticism, full of condemnation, sometimes of contempt. Professor Montague, in more than a page of detail given to the machinery for the election of deputies, does not hint at anything sinister about this machinery; but Mr. Macdonald discovers that its complication was 'wanton and deliberate,'—'all a part of the Jacobin plan.' He continues: 'This over-elaboration of the electoral arrangements kept all busy men,—in other words, all respectable men,—from the ballot, and handed it over to idlers and vagabonds.' It is the tone of this statement, rather than its inconsistency with the fact that only tax-payers or 'active citizens' could vote, which is objectionable. The whole passage is a developed charge that the Jacobins used every device known in eighteenth-century English electioneering practice, and others less brutal.

The same unsympathetic attitude controls the brief characterizations of members of the Legislative Assembly and of the Convention. Brissot, for example, is the 'son of a pastry cook,' who, as a journalist and during his exile

in England, had picked up a 'specious and subterranean knowledge of European politics,' enabling him 'to pose as a great authority on foreign affairs.' He further stigmatizes him as 'thoroughly insincere and self-seeking.' To malign Brissot is a literary diversion as old as the Revolution itself. It was good Jacobins like Camille Desmoulins who organized the tradition. From such judgments it is refreshing to turn to a letter written, after the execution of the Girondins, to Sir Samuel Romilly, by Etienne Dumont, one of Mirabeau's friends, who says he never liked Brissot as a politician, but that this did not prevent him 'from doing justice to his virtues, to his private character, to his disinterestedness, to his social qualities as a husband, a father, a friend, and as an intrepid advocate of the wretched negroes.'

Such a lack of sympathy leads Mr. Macdonald to the verge of misstatement. The 'destruction' of Lyons is an illustration. He intimates that 'a considerable portion of the city was destroyed.' But it was only ridiculous monsters like Collot d'Herbois who could poetize about a day when the passing traveller would discover on the site of Lyons only a few cottages, 'which the friends of equality shall dwell in, living happily on the benefits of nature.' The 'considerable portion' destroyed consisted of a few houses in the wealthy quarter of Bellecœur. The Convention in its decree expressly exempted public buildings, buildings devoted to industry, and the dwellings of the poor. Mr. Macdonald's explanations of the Maximum and of the function of 'representatives on mission' are scarcely more lucid or accurate. This is particularly unfortunate in case of the Maximum, which was a curious wholesale application of an economic practice familiar under the Old Régime.

The effect of the Revolution upon England and Europe, even upon the Balkan peoples, is succinctly described in a final chapter by Mr. G. P. Gooch. Unfortunately, nothing is said about the impression made in America. It is not a sufficient answer to say that this was precluded by the title of the chapter. The steady sympathy which the republican Americans, themselves lately revolutionists, felt for Revolutionary France, even after the execution of the King, is significant. They made a distinction between the essential Revolution and the deeds of the Robespierist faction,—a distinction which some English and Continental critics, with latent aristocratic or monarchist prejudices, do not always succeed in keeping clear.

The twenty-five chapters of this volume, taken as a whole, impress one as a remarkably useful setting forth of the facts essential to an understanding of the Revolution. If they are

not equally successful in interpreting it in a large and sympathetic spirit as the tragic consummation of the long development of French institutions, this is probably due to the treatment of the middle period as a vulgar melodrama.

HENRY E. BOURNE.

AMERICAN EXPLORATION CLASSICS.*

The centennial of the Lewis and Clark Exploration of the Northwest is responsible for the increase of literature upon that subject which the year has produced, and is still to produce according to announcements of publishers. No other adventure into the wilderness changed so much of the United States domain from the unknown to the known, or made as much geography in the same time. The revival of interest in Lewis and Clark has served to call fresh attention to the accomplishments of other courageous spirits sent forth to spy out the land before the advance of civilization.

Few readers are possessed of a mind so prosaic or a circulation so sluggish as not to be moved by a good story of adventure. Hero-worship is almost second-nature when called forth by indomitable courage, physical hardship, or triumphant achievement. In the guise of fiction, adventure has played and will continue to play a large part as a motive in literature. When transformed into history by a lively imagination and a facile pen, it claims scarcely less attention. Yet many prefer to learn of adventures in neither of these guises, but to go direct to the original sources when they are available, and to read in the 'first person singular' the moving accidents by field and flood which befell the makers of continental trails.

To satisfy this class of readers, Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Company have prepared a series of reprints of personal descriptions of explorations under the title 'The Trail Makers.' The ten volumes constituting the series have been put into handy duodecimo shape, without reducing the type to an objectionable size. Reprints of the original maps also are given, with introductions and other useful addenda. Uniformity in style and care in details have produced a very attractive series.

The story of Coronado's expedition from Mexico into the region now occupied by Texas, New Mexico, and Kansas, is well known to writers and readers of the early Spanish history of the Southwest, but not to the American

reading public at large. The expedition was made twelve years before the English explorations began on the Atlantic coast, and seventy years previous to any permanent settlement by that nation. It does not come into touch with the history of the United States, until the opening of the Santa Fé Trail and our territorial expansion disclosed its fruits in the province of New Mexico. This comparatively remote historical field will be made accessible to many readers by the volume entitled 'Coronado's Journey.' The official and private descriptions made by several of the participants have been taken from the Spanish archives and translated into English by Dr. George Parker Winship, who has added an excellent itinerary of the various Spanish expeditions in America. The foot-notes made by Mr. Winship are so useful that one wishes a similar attention had been paid the remaining volumes. Admitting that annotations are distracting and that 'editors' commonly over-annotate, the fact remains that in reprints treating of remote places and persons notes are valuable for the sake of identification. They would have materially increased the value of another volume in the series—a reprint of the voyages and travels of Daniel Williams Harmon, for twelve years connected with the fur companies of the Northwest. As a partner in the Northwest Fur Company and in charge of the company interests beyond the Rocky Mountains, he made these observations while leading the life of a white man among savages. The original was probably printed in 1820. This uncertainty of the date of original publication would have been cleared by the introduction of facsimiles of title-pages, as is done in some reprints.

The Lewis and Clark reprint occupies three volumes. A few pages containing an introductory sketch of the purchase of Louisiana, by Professor McMaster, are placed in the first volume. Otherwise, the introductions in the series are of minor merit. The Biddle edition of the Lewis and Clark papers is followed.

Two volumes are given to Alexander Mackenzie's Voyages to the Arctic and the Pacific oceans in 1789 and 1793. As the first European known to written history to cross the continent in its northern portion, Mackenzie's name will always be of interest. Having charge of the Northwest Fur Company's post at Detroit, and ordered to make explorations in the back country, he undertook the journeys, and wrote descriptions, which were first printed in London in 1801. He settled negatively the question, long in dispute, of the possible existence of a northwestern water-passage to the Pacific. While affording no such scientific information as characterized the accounts of Lewis and Clark, the observations of Mackenzie

* THE TRAIL MAKERS. Edited by John Bach McMaster. In ten volumes, comprising: Lewis and Clark's Journal, Mackenzie's Voyages, Colden's History of the Five Indian Nations, Butler's Wild Northwest, Harmon's Voyages and Travels, and Coronado's Journey. Illustrated. New York: A. S. Barnes & Co.

upon the natural history of the vast regions he traversed are of no small value.

Much more recent than these journeys, and made for quite a different object, was that of Sir George William Francis Butler, an officer of the British army stationed in Canada. Purely for the love of adventure, he traversed the vast solitudes lying between the northern forests and the barren lands. He passed along the Red River of the North to Lake Athabasca and along the Peace River to the Rocky Mountains, thence turning to the Frazer River. His account of the trip was first published in 1872.

There was need of a popular reprint of Cadwallader Colden's 'History of the Five Nations,' but why it was placed in a series on trail-makers is not easy to ascertain. Its publication in 1747 no doubt accomplished the object the writer had in calling British attention to the menace of the French on the northern border of their American colonies, and to the service the Five Nations would render if properly allied to the English and used as a barrier against the French. The history also served at the time to call forth an early, if not the first, attention of Europe to American letters. The author was a scholar and scientist, and his history is too valuable an authority on early North America to disappear by being allowed to drop from print.

EDWIN E. SPARKS.

A QUAKER PRINTER AND MAN OF ACTION.*

Those who have used John Bellows's excellent French pocket-dictionary,—and its users are legion,—will be pleased to learn that its compiler was much more than a lexicographer, that he was in fact the very last sort of man one would take to be a maker of dictionaries. That his tiny roan-bound, prayerbook-like 'Dictionary for the Pocket' was among the most highly prized volumes in Oliver Wendell Holmes's library, is probably known to many; but that he himself was one of the Autocrat's valued friends and correspondents is not so well known. With Senator Hoar also he was on the friendliest terms. It may be remembered that at the Harvard commencement of three years ago Mr. Bellows walked with the Senator (who was President of the Alumni Association) at the head of the procession, on his way to Sanders Theatre to receive his honorary M.A. degree. At that time he and Mrs. Bellows were paying a three-months' visit to America. Other friends in this country, especially among the Quakers (for he was one of them), he had in good number.

* JOHN BELLOW'S. Letters and Memories. Edited by his Wife. Illustrated. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

Born at Liskeard, Cornwall, in 1831, John Bellows early learned the printer's trade, and rose, when little over thirty, to be master of the foremost printing-house in Gloucester. But his business was allowed to absorb by no means all his energies. Humanitarian movements of many kinds appealed to him, and he was sent on numerous missions of mercy by the Society of Friends, in whose councils his weight and influence came more and more to be recognized and valued. Among his good works of this kind may be mentioned journeys to France in aid of the sufferers from the war of 1870, to Russia and the Caucasus in behalf of the Stundists and other persecuted sects, to Turkey for the purpose of helping the Armenians, and to St. Petersburg in the interest of the Doukhobors, whose emigration to Canada was in no small measure the result of his activity and generosity, other English Quakers acting with him. That he sought out Count Tolstoi in the course of these Russian missions, and that the two became warmly attached, goes without saying. Incidentally, it was work of this sort in foreign lands that made John Bellows feel the need of serviceable pocket dictionaries of the languages he had occasion to use. A visit to Norway had first suggested to him the compilation of a Norwegian dictionary; but he soon became convinced that a French one would be more generally useful. Hence the publication, after seven years of intermittent labor upon it, of the now familiar work that bears his name. As an antiquary versed in the Roman antiquities of Britain, and especially of Gloucester, John Bellows's fame was not confined to his own country. Foreign antiquarian societies elected him to membership and solicited his literary contributions. As a Liberal Unionist in politics, he exerted an influence that was handsomely acknowledged by Lord Salisbury. He was held in high esteem by his business associates, his friends both at home and abroad were many, his family life appears to have been all that heart could desire, and when death came, at seventy-one, nine children and a devoted wife surrounded his death-bed. This outline of his life is bald and meagre enough; but let us turn to some of his written and spoken utterances, and we shall perhaps catch a suggestion of the man's peculiar charm. Moral earnestness, fearless candor, a hatred of cant, a lively fancy, and a loving heart are what we shall not fail to discover in his always entertaining letters to wife, children, and friends. First, a passage from his wife's narrative will show the struggle he had to make before he could bring himself to a strict observance of Quaker customs.

'He never shrank from a course that he felt it right to take, because of the pain involved in it.

He never chose the easier way. The change of dress was not so much of a trial to him as the change in speech; but, having made up his mind as to his right course, he never faltered, though at times the anguish of mind that he passed through was almost more than he could endure. He thought it necessary to explain to the work-girls under him the great change that had taken place in his outlook on life, and, that for the future he would have to address them in Quaker language, though he had a morbid dread of the manner in which this might be received. Those who knew him later can imagine the scene where he melted these rough girls to tears by his narrative. One of them, when he had finished, became spokeswoman for the rest, assuring him, with tears, that they hoped he would never shrink from doing and saying what he felt, in his conscience, to be right.

Here are some suggestive passages from a letter to Oliver Wendell Holmes acknowledging the receipt of 'Over the Teacups':

'One mystery thy volume has set me further away than ever from solving: and that is, Where is the boundary between childhood and boyhood; or boyhood and manhood and [old] age? This I have never been able to find. . . . Only this very evening I was wheedled into an interlude from the "Teacups," by a deputation of four Gallios who care for none of these things, to entreat that I would "give them a chase." Seven-year-old put the request in a very low voice; for a "chase" in this house is forbidden by the mistress on the ground that it makes dust: it destroys the carpets: it leaves finger-marks on the walls: it tears the clothes: it upsets the furniture: with other high crimes and misdemeanors which are duly set forth in the manifesto that forbids chasing "indoors." . . . So, being obliged to go, I went; and once in the game, even five-year-old herself could not throw her heart and soul into it more entirely! Boy! Why, I never was more of a boy in my life! What boy in the whole world ever cared about carpets in the midst of a chase? And did I care one straw whether they were old sacks, or Cloth of Gold, or the High Priest of Mecca's prayer rugs, if by racing over them I could catch two of those hares at one hit? Why, here is a game older than Adam! The old hunting instinct of the cave-men, as a modern author has shown, came down to us by heredity; an instinct that has scores of times transformed me into a bear, under the dining-room table, and which only the counterbalancing force of civilized life kept from transforming me into an elephant after our chase was over just now—crawling into the room with three men on my back, and one leading me! I do not think that anything in this life has more puzzled me than this consciousness that the bound between boyhood and manhood

'Is marked by no distinguishable line;
The turf unites, the pathways intertwine.'

The secret is this (!) that we go on adding to our existing ring of life, as the ammonites do with their spiral shells. We include all that has gone before; hence we can keep more fully in touch or in sympathy with children, than they can with us.'

The descriptions which his letters from southeastern Russia give of Caucasian scenery and people, and of the hardships and perils of travel in that wild region, are extremely interesting, but must not be spoiled by mutilation. From an account of a visit to Count Tolstoi and his

family in Moscow, in 1893, illustrative passages may be taken.

'He was exceedingly glad to see me, and I felt bound up in him more than I can express. There are some things in which we see eye to eye; and others that I know to a certainty he is mistaken in, and which I would give much to open his eyes to. To-day, besides the conversation at his own house, he accompanied me for many miles over Moscow on foot and in the trams. . . . Little Ivan is five: his sister Alexandra, a most lovely child of eight. . . . The two little ones dragged me off, at this point, to the nursery, to shew "their toys and their brother's puppy." "An English pointer, Mr. Bellows." "What is his name?" "O, he has not got a name yet. You see it is—a little girl—and my brother would rather have a little boy: so it will be changed." Ivan's English is hardly so perfect as his sister's. It was delightful to see his earnestness as he strove after words to say what he wanted.'

In 1890, a newspaper account of the sufferings undergone by American cattle on their way to Europe so pained Mr. Bellows that he resolved to eat no more meat. Two years later he felt it his duty to abstain also from fish. In connection with this sensitiveness of conscience the following passages are of interest. The first is from a letter written to his wife from southeastern Russia; the second is from Mrs. Bellows's narrative.

'As to my interest in science during the journey, I get along excellently with my companions; for although they have not the same tastes, I am often able to interest them with some details. They are exceedingly nice and very unselfish: always trying to give me the most comfortable place, etc. As to food, we have got on all the better in the last few days for the fast of the Greek Church; for this leads to the Hotels and Restaurants having a sort of double menu: vegetarian for the "orthodox." I conclude to discontinue fish: for I could not kill them myself; and if I cannot kill, I will not let others kill for me. That the most robust health and strength can be maintained without eating flesh is shown by the porters of Tiflis, who are practically vegetarians.'

'During his visit to St. Petersburg in 1892 he was dining one evening with a gentleman, who enquired of him if he had been at a certain ball on the previous evening, and if he had seen such and such a play. To these enquiries John Bellows had to reply in the negative; and, further, that he had never been to a ball or to a theatre in his life. This statement was so astounding to his host that he laid down his knife and fork, looked fixedly at him, and exclaimed: "You never go to balls, you don't go to the theatre, you drink no wine, and you eat no meat; then do tell me if your life is worth living at all!" But it was not on such things as these that John Bellows depended for his happiness; and yet it would have been hard to find anyone who got more keen enjoyment out of life than he did: certainly no one was more interested in every phase of it, from the spiritual welfare of a nation to the passing amusement of a child.'

In his visit to this country, the Quaker from Gloucester was especially interested in Philadelphia and the people he met there. As a philologist he noted local pronunciation and

idioms. He recognized Cornish words and intonations in the speech of some Pennsylvanians. 'They say, for instance, a house is *torn down* (which is *not* English!) They have told me, when I have once or twice spoken in their meetings, they have been struck with my tone being much nearer their own than that of English Friends generally is!' The book reveals many of John Bellows's lovable traits. So used was he to picking up solitary foot-passengers when he was driving alone, that his horse often embarrassed him by stopping whenever a pedestrian was overtaken. On one occasion Mr. Bellows persisted in bringing a pleasant visit to a close on a fixed day, although urged to stay and desiring to stay to attend a picnic, because he had promised a poor boy in London that he should carry his bag if he would meet a certain train; and there was no means of arranging a postponement with the boy. The lesson to be learned from John Bellows's life may best be indicated in his own words referring to diversities of belief but the same spirit.

'In going through life, no two of us have precisely the same path to tread. Yet we cannot contemplate the step by which another soul has overcome the world, without being helped in our own, though different, path to the same end. If we are in a right state of mind, we shall be in sympathy with such a man, notwithstanding that the truths which were the principal ones he was called to contend for, may not, at present, even be shown to us at all. Unity of spirit does not lie in holding the same views of things, or learning the same outward lessons; but in loving and cherishing the truth in whatever direction it is made manifest to us.'

Tolerance toward all was repeatedly preached by this most tolerant of men. A better acquaintance between nations, be held, would lead to that international tolerance which would make war impossible. 'Even individually,' he adds, 'if we experience dislike toward a person, such a feeling lessens as we come to know him more closely, and enter into his trials and sorrows: for it is impossible to hate even a wicked man if we know *all* about him.' He might well have summed this up in his favorite French: 'Tout comprendre c'est tout pardonner.'

The book does credit to its printers,—Messrs. Max and William Bellows, sons of John,—as well as to its compiler. Some of its misused terms, however, as applied by an Englishman to things in America, are amusing. The Massachusetts legislature is called a Parliament, and the close of its annual session is referred to as a prorogation. The Old South Church figures as the Old South Chapel. The writer speaks of driving up the side of Lake Wachusett to the hotel at its summit, evidently meaning Mount Wachusett. But taken all in all, we shall not soon chance upon a more thoroughly wholesome, helpful, entertaining, and instructive biography than this account of the life and labors of John Bellows. PERCY F. BICKNELL.

PROBLEMS OF THE AMERICAN CITY.*

Our most kindly foreign critic, Mr. James Bryce, told us twenty years ago that the one great failure of American politics was municipal government. The statement was not challenged at the time, as it was the popular opinion of the American people, who confessed, with chagrin or indifference, that in American cities democracy had failed.

During the last two decades we have witnessed an amazing change. Municipal government has grown more efficient and less corrupt, while national and state governments have in many instances grown less efficient and more corrupt. To-day the hope of democracy is in the city, as one cannot doubt who reads Dr. Wilcox's book with the attention it deserves. The author has had a wide range of experience, both as student and municipal reformer; not the least of his advantages having been that of participating in the recent struggle of Grand Rapids for civic righteousness. Dr. Wilcox states this problem in democracy in a logical and scientific manner, indicating the significance of the growth of cities; the place which industry occupies in determining the conditions of self-government; the fundamental importance in the city of the street and the public utilities; the dependence of citizenship upon civic education, the control of leisure, and coöperation; the significance of local organization, and the importance of municipal home-rule. The investigation concludes with a practical discussion of municipal finance and a suggested programme of civic effort.

The great merits of the book are an appreciation of the difficulties and possibilities of democratic administration, and a minute knowledge of the details of civic life. The author is equally sound in his discussion of the vexed problem of regulating vice, the immense possibilities of the public schoolhouse or other civic centre, the relative importance of mayor and council, executive and legislative functions, and the value of modern democratic devices, such as the initiative referendum, proportional representation, and the recall. The author is thorough-going and courageous in his democracy. He says:

'It is fitting that in the study of city conditions and municipal government in the United States we should strive to comprehend the relation existing between democracy and this marvellous phenomenon, the city, looming so large upon our horizon and dominating more and more our whole political, industrial and social life. Democracy has not been fully tested, and its record of achievement is such that we, of modern days, believe its ultimate failure would mean the failure of progress itself. To us the right of every man to count for what he is really worth has come to be an essential part of the

* THE AMERICAN CITY. A Problem in Democracy. By Delos F. Wilcox, Ph.D. New York: The Macmillan Co.

justification of life. We look upon the egregious blunders of our cities and listen to Mr. Bryce's oft-repeated dictum about the "one conspicuous failure" among our institutions, and still maintain that what we need is not less democracy but more.

'We see that the experiment of democracy must be begun over again under the changed conditions of industrial and social life, and that in the new experiment cities must take the lead. That thus far democracy has failed to justify itself in the cities of America is commonly believed. Yet even in the nature of the case the richest field for democracy and in them the principle of political co-operation may be carried furthest. If the people prove themselves worthy of political power, municipal institutions will surely lead the van in the political progress of the world.'

The book is so valuable that it would seem ungracious to point out minor flaws, were it not that they can be remedied in the subsequent editions. Dr. Wilcox occasionally takes liberties with his English, misleading the reader by failing to use words in their current significance. The chapter on 'The Control of Leisure' deals not only with recreative institutions, but discusses (with much acumen, it must be admitted) gambling, prostitution, and public baths. 'Municipal Insurance' is a term which covers the fire and police departments, boiler inspection, tenement houses, and pure water, — giving a rhetorical twist to a term which technically applies to the municipality's protection of its own property. The chapters on 'Civic Education' and 'A Programme of Civic Effort' are satisfactorily described in the titles; but 'Civic Cooperation' is a phrase used to describe *municipal* activities in another chapter. These defects are worthy of notice only because they are anomalous in the pages of a writer with such a fund of information and such clear vision as the author of 'The American City.'

CHARLES ZUEBLIN.

THE CURRENCY QUESTION IN RETROSPECTIVE.*

So abundant has been the literature on money and monetary history during the past decade that a writer who ventures to-day to enter this field must feel confident that he has either something very important to say, or else the power of presenting his materials in a way peculiarly fascinating to the reader, if he hopes to secure a wide audience for the message he brings. Judged by this standard, Mr. Hep-

burn's 'History of Coinage and Currency in the United States' is not likely to run through many editions. The author is perhaps right in his belief that 'there is no one work of convenient size and popular character covering the history of the coinage and currency of the United States, with data and details in chronological order, available as a book of reference,' though Professor Dewey's 'Financial History of the United States' fulfils the first part of this expressed need in an admirable manner. As a 'book of reference,' Mr. Hepburn's volume certainly has value, though it may be suggested that for this purpose the first part of the title would appeal more to sober students of the subject than the more aggressive second part which appears on the back of the volume. It is to be feared that the book can not make clear its claim to be 'a work of popular character,' for Mr. Hepburn's history is for the most part a colorless one, and the author's style is not such as to make up for this lack of critical comment.

The earlier chapters, on the Coinage System, are chiefly a recital of well known events, without much attempt to point out their significance. The author gives an interesting explanation of the reason why the legal ratio of 16 to 1 was adopted in 1834-37, when the ratio between silver and gold was changed from 15 to 1. The ratio to which most European bimetallic countries adhered was 15½ to 1, and this was also not far removed from the market ratio; but Mr. Hepburn asserts that Congress knowingly undervalued silver, hoping thereby to draw to this country gold from Central and South America, as well as to retain the output of the new gold-mines then being opened up in North Carolina and Georgia. Benton, Calhoun, and John Quincy Adams all supported the new ratio; and the above explanation indicates that in so doing they believed that they were in fact establishing the gold standard. Such indeed proved to be the case, since the coinage of silver dollars practically ceased from that date.

In his review of the history of State Banking between 1837 and 1849, the author has brought together and summarized the researches of several essayists; and this is one of the best and most readable portions of his book. He attributes the partial failure of the New York Safety-fund system at this time to the fact that the fund was made applicable not only to the note circulation but to all the indebtedness of the banks, and is unwilling to believe that these failures point to any defects in the Safety-fund system of protecting note holders.

Mr. Hepburn gives to Mr. Windom, by implication at least, the credit for having originated the Silver-purchase act of 1890, since he regards the so-called Sherman act as merely

* HISTORY OF COINAGE AND CURRENCY IN THE UNITED STATES, and the Perennial Contest for Sound Money. By A. Barton Hepburn. New York: The Macmillan Co.

A HISTORY OF THE GREENBACKS. With Special Reference to the Economic Consequences of their Issue, 1862-65. By Wesley Clair Mitchell. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE. By Anthony W. Margraff. Chicago: Fergus Printing Company.

Congressional tinkering with the Windom measure. In this connection, Secretary Windom himself comes in for this somewhat doubtful compliment:

'He would no doubt have favored the soundest system of money had it been politic to do so, but it was not, in his judgment, wise to fly in the face of the people. Few men could have so skilfully devised a plan calculated to satisfy the silver advocates, the Greenbackers, the gold men, and the inflationists, as well as those who favored contraction.'

In a work like the present one, written by a man who has himself been actively engaged in administering the laws of which he treats, our chief interest is in his opinions concerning the efficiency of legislation for current needs. Mr. Hepburn gives us such a summary of his views in the last twenty pages of his text; and, though we read them with interest, and with due respect for the authority with which they are presented, it cannot be said that they reveal anything that is strikingly new or wholly convincing. Bimetallism he considers to be a moribund issue; but he fears that in times of business stagnation the existence of the large silver coinage in our currency may prove a menace which can only be guarded against by continuing a large Treasury surplus into which the silver may be thrown. The danger is increased by the presence of the Greenbacks; but, on the other hand, it is lessened by the need for this currency in every-day transactions, and for bank reserves. The Sub-treasury system receives, of course, its due share of criticism for producing a monetary stringency whenever the Federal revenues are largely in excess of expenditures, and there is presented once more the banker's plan of salvation, — the deposit of the government funds in the banks of reserve cities. We are also reminded that a bank currency based on bond security will always be non-elastic, and that both security and elasticity can be secured by means of a Safety-fund system, and by a guarantee fund provided by means of taxation. The experiences of the German Reichsbank and of the Canadian banks are relied upon for proofs of this latter assertion.

The character of Mr. Mitchell's 'History of the Greenbacks' will be appreciated when it is stated that it has already taken rank as the standard treatise on this interesting and important epoch of our monetary and financial history. Not only is the investigation thorough and well-nigh exhaustive for the period it covers, but, aside from the rather tedious analysis of the statistics of wages and prices, the matter is presented in an attractive style. The significant fact which is revealed by the author's account of the conditions at the opening of the war is that the low credit of the government at this time, of which the apologists for the Greenback legislation have made so much, was

not due to inability to get revenue so much as it was to Secretary Chase's determination not to resort to taxation as a means of carrying on the war. It seems also to have been demonstrated that the \$150,000,000 loan of 1861 was not the cause of the suspension of specie payments, as has often been averred; for Mr. Mitchell shows that the banks were not seriously inconvenienced by this demand, since the disbursements of the government were so rapid that the specie soon returned to the banks. It was Secretary Chase's annual report showing a disappointing condition of the government finances, coupled with the uneasiness caused by the Trent affair, which produced the panic in the New York markets and compelled suspension.

The plea of necessity which was potent in producing the legal-tender acts, and which has been accepted as an excuse by many a writer since that time, is here shown to have had force only in so far as it reveals the unwillingness of Congress and of the Secretary to sell bonds for what they would bring in the open market. In this connection it is well to remember Mr. Fessenden's answer to those who claimed that the government ought not to pay over six per cent for money. 'Money in the market,' he replied, 'is always worth what it will sell for. It is an article of merchandise, like anything else; and the government has no reason to suppose, unless it can offer much better security, that it should get money at a better rate than anybody else.'

The economic consequences of the Greenback legislation can be only briefly alluded to; and, indeed, the full consequences cannot be realized from the history of these four years, as the author well recognizes. It is not surprising, of course, to learn that gold and silver coins disappeared from circulation, except in California, where there was a deep-seated prejudice against all forms of paper money; but it does cause some wonder to find that the smaller coins, even those of nickel and bronze, were hoarded and commanded a premium. This premium was due, in the first instance, not to the high specie value of these coins, but to the great need for small change which resulted from the disappearance of the small silver coins. The 'shinplasters' were soon called into requisition to supply this deficiency.

The history of the Greenbacks does not, in Mr. Mitchell's opinion, tend to strengthen the position of the quantity theorists. A lengthy study of the fluctuations in the value of the currency leads him to the conclusion that 'the quantity of the Greenbacks influenced their specie value rather by affecting the credit of the government than by altering the volume of the circulating medium.'

The author's elaborate treatment of the movement of wages and prices during the war cannot be described here, nor can we devote space to his criticism of the materials with which he has had to deal, and the use of them by earlier investigators. We must content ourselves with the statement that his analysis and conclusions support the commonly accepted theory that changes in the value of the currency are more quickly reflected in the movements of prices than in those of wages. This means that the wage-earners during the Civil War paid, on account of the Greenbacks, a currency tax for the support of the war equal to 'perhaps a fifth or a sixth of real incomes.' In reality, however, this can hardly be said to have been a tax, since the benefits accrued not to the government but to the employers, who found their profits swelled by the fact that prices rose more rapidly than wages. To a slight degree, the position of the wage-earner was rendered less serious by a rise of rents less rapid than the rise of prices. The final effect of the Greenbacks noted by Mr. Mitchell is the increased cost of the war due to this legislation. He calculates this additional expense to have been \$791,000,000, while the addition to the war-debt due to the use of paper money was in the neighborhood of \$589,000,000. This is a more conservative statement of the situation than has been furnished by the estimates of earlier writers.

Mr. Margraff's book on 'International Exchange' is not one which lends itself easily to the reviewer's art, since it is the author's purpose not to give a systematic presentation of the theory of foreign exchange, but rather 'general practical information' of especial value to bankers and exporters and importers. The text is accordingly of a descriptive and explanatory character, discussing such subjects as foreign bills of exchange, letters of credit, foreign banking systems, arbitrage, gold exports and imports, and the monetary systems of foreign countries. The matter is clearly presented, without any waste of words, and would prove interesting and instructive to a much wider circle of readers than that for which it is primarily intended.

M. B. HAMMOND.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

A delightful biography of Miss Edgeworth.

Timely to the newly awakened interest in Irish literature, which is gradually broadening to include more than modern mysticism, comes another volume in the 'English Men of Letters' series (Macmillan) upon Maria Edgeworth. It is appropriately written by her distinguished country-woman, the Hon. Emily Law-

less. Miss Lawless explains that all Miss Edgeworth's other biographies have been English, with the result that the purely Irish side of her writings, and their influence in Ireland itself, have been pretty much neglected. It is upon her attention to these matters, and her use of some hitherto unpublished letters, that the author relies for novelty and interest in a field already well explored; but in reality it is her own personality that gives the greatest charm to her work,—her quick humor, her strong power to vivify a situation or a character, her gift of lively narration, her command of fine nervous English. It is as a very loveable woman, rather than as a successful authoress, that Miss Edgeworth interests her biographer; and she certainly draws a delightful picture of Maria in her father's home, with its bewildering succession of wives and its seventeen children. There was little opportunity for solitude there, between children and Richard Lovell Edgeworth's theories; but this did not disturb Maria. She wrote apparently just as she did dozens of other things in the busy day's round, and submitted her work to her father exactly as she would have submitted any other household affair to him. Miss Lawless has more sympathy for Mr. Edgeworth than some previous commentators, although she admits that he did his worst for Maria by blunting her never strong imagination and insisting upon the moral issues of every tale. She wonders how he even let the utterly un-moral 'Castle Rackrent' escape his censorship. This she considers not only by far Maria's best book, but the best story that ever came out of Ireland. The friendship with Scott, and the exchange of visits between Abbotsford and Edgeworthstown, form one of the most interesting episodes of Miss Edgeworth's later life. Altogether we feel that Miss Lawless fully proves her point,—namely, that Miss Edgeworth, though not of course in the first rank as a writer, stands in what is perhaps quite as enviable a position as 'one of the very pleasantest personalities to be met with in the whole wide world of books.'

Some new Biblical plays.

For some years past, the Biblical play has held the stage of public attention and commercial success when the play of contemporary setting and current thought has often had but a brief and inconspicuous life. The latest addition to the growing fund is Miss Florence Wilkinson's 'Two Plays of Israel' (McClure, Phillips & Co.). The longer of them, 'David of Bethlehem,' is the work of several years, and is said to be the first of the recent plays concerned with that subject. There seems to be some possibility that it will be seen on the stage, Mr. E. H. Sothern having bought the dramatic rights to it some years ago. The second play in the volume is entitled 'Mary Magdalen,' and is much less considerable, in various respects, than its companion. In Biblical plays, as in the case of all stories that belong to the common fund of history and tradition, the thread and dénouement of the story are virtually known in advance. This places an extra burden on the new interpreter, since the appeal of narrative interest can no longer be paramount.

Phillips and D'Annunzio, Crawford and Boker, had but the slender thread of Dante's story from which to weave their delicate and extensive fabric of dramatic texture. The charm and virtue of each play lay in the individual vitality which each author poured into the meagre mould of fact. Miss Wilkinson has proved inadequate to accomplish with noteworthy success this most difficult feat of dramatic art. In 'David of Beth-lehem,' the structure itself is not well mortised; the constituent parts are not in themselves well poised. The incidents and situations designed to hold the spectator are seldom powerfully dramatic, smacking more of stage craft than of dramatic art. The diction in many places is absurdly inappropriate. Such sentences as 'Ay, a good dream for them as find it good, but a bad dream for some others' by the witch whom Saul consults, 'It do so, Lady Michal, and that puts me in mind of my herbs for Hurai' by the old gardener in Act. II., and other like expressions, suggest the idea that David Harum's vernacular has remained unchanged from the time of David until our own day. The second of the two plays, 'Mary Magdalen,' is pitched more in a key of poetry than the other, and contains passages that are not devoid of beauty. But from the dramatic standpoint, the play has one fatal flaw. The crucial moment, the decision at the crisis, is lamentably weak, because there is no suggestion that the controlling motive in that decision has a profound physical, moral, or spiritual basis and cause, as in the case of 'La Samaritaine' or 'Mary of Magdala.' Although this play is freer from verbal and phrasal incongruities than its predecessor, it is hard to forgive Miss Wilkinson for accrediting Philip, the Tetrarch, with the coinage of such a nineteenth-century word as 'crassly.'

*The story of
chamber music.*

Mr. N. Kilburn, in a prefatory note to 'The Story of Chamber Music' (imported by Scribner), asks the question as to which of the great forms of musical composition we would plead for in case all the rest were doomed to destruction. 'Music for the orchestra, with its vivid colours, its strength and delicacy; the vast range of choral music; works for the organ, that huge modern plexus of pipe and reed,—these and others no doubt have strong claims on our musical affections. But, if forced to such a choice, it is certain that many a musician would, without hesitation, pledge himself to uphold the claims of chamber music; for who can measure the almost infinite variety and charm which it affords, and that too with the slenderest means?' The term chamber music, strictly speaking, embraces compositions in the form of duets, trios, quartettes, and other larger combinations, for strings (i. e., violins, violas, 'cellos, and double basses), and for wind instruments, both with and without the pianoforte. In the treatise mentioned, the author has traced the beginnings of chamber music, which originated very early in the sixteenth century, and follows minutely the development of this class of composition, to which nearly all great composers have contributed their share.

Regarding the present-day tendency, Mr. Kilburn laments that many chamber works are written too much in orchestral style, and that there has arisen an inclination on the part of some composers to make this form express more than it seems naturally fitted to do, to introduce the programme idea into chamber music—such as Raff's Op. 192, 'Die Schöne Müllerin,' and Smetana's 'Aus meinem Leben.' The present volume is undoubtedly the most complete work on the subject extant, and is the result of painstaking research and study. A chronological and biographical appendix adds to its value.

*French romantic
writers of the
last century.*

The translation of 'Main Currents of Nineteenth Century Literature,' the great critical work of Dr. Georg Brandes, goes on apace. We have already reviewed the first three volumes of this translation, and the fifth now appears from the press of the Messrs. Macmillan,—the fourth, on 'Naturalism in England,' having been for the moment postponed. The subject of this fifth volume is 'The Romantic School in France,' thus forming the necessary sequence to 'The Reaction in France,' which is the subject of the third volume. The history now proceeds, after a recapitulation of the political and social conditions, the influences domestic and foreign, that shaped the generation of 1830, to discuss at length the work of Nodier, Vigny, Hugo, Musset, George Sand, Balzac, Beyle, Mérimée, Gautier, and Sainte-Beuve. These ten authors have one or more chapters each (Balzac and Mérimée no less than six apiece), and their work is discussed upon the broadest historical and philosophical basis. Three or four closing chapters sum up the period, gathering up the loose ends of the discussion, and supplying matters 'overlooked and forgotten' in the preceding chapters. This volume is probably the ablest section of the great critical work to which it belongs. The author's closing words describe the French romantic school as 'the greatest literary school of the nineteenth century,' and his treatment fairly makes good the claim, showing, as it does, how in all directions, this influence 'revitalised style,' and 'insinuated itself as a fertilising power into the science of history, as an inspiring power into politics.' The volume is throughout written *con amore*, and displays, if possible, deeper insight and firmer grasp than its predecessors. It is indispensable to the serious student of modern literature.

*A book on
17th century
manners.*

'Social Life under the Stuarts' is the title of a rather amorphous volume written by 'Elizabeth Godfrey' and imported by Messrs. E. P. Dutton & Co. Upon examination, the Stuarts prove to be the first two Kings of that name, and the social life includes anything relating to the manners and customs of the upper classes, from gossip, dress, and amusements in town and country, to such weighty matters as science, art, music, literature, and religion. Practically this volume is a continuation of a previous one on the home-life of the same period, only that its scope is slightly broader. As before, the material is

drawn chiefly from the letters, memoirs, and diaries which best mirror the private life of the time,—George Herbert, Izaak Walton, Lady Brilliana Harley, Herriek, Endymion Porter, and Evelyn, being a few of the authorities oftenest quoted. With such heterogeneous subject-matter, little unity is possible, except that the writer tries to limit her outlook to that of the cultured man or woman of the day. The result, since the book wholly lacks distinction of style, is rather overpowering; but as a reference work, putting into accessible and fairly popular form a good deal of hitherto unobtainable material, as well as some more familiar, it will fill a niche in many libraries. As citation is generally made verbatim, accuracy is of course ensured. Twenty illustrations from old prints and engravings form one of the most interesting features of the book.

*Literature of
the Dark Ages.*

After much delay, a new volume has been added to the series of 'Periods of European Literature' (Scribner). It has for its subject 'The Dark Ages,' and thus comes first in the chronological order, although it stands as ninth in the order of publication. When we say that it is the work of Professor W. P. Ker, little need be added by way of praise. The brilliant and accomplished author of 'Epic and Romance' has hardly an equal among English scholars in this field, and the present work is probably the best of the entire series. As was to be expected, the author has given much attention to early Teutonic literature—Icelandic in particular,—treating of Old English in somewhat less detail by virtue of the fact that it is more familiar to the class of readers for whom this work is designed. The longest of the five chapters into which the book divides, nevertheless, is necessarily devoted to the Latin writings of the period covered, and here also we find displayed a thorough scholarship and a clear method of presentation. The treatment of Celtic poetry, although upon a closely restricted scale, is also satisfactory. Throughout the work, the author keeps in mind the interrelations between the several branches of the investigation, and fuses the disparate elements of his subject-matter into some degree of unity. In a word, he is successful in illuminating the darkest literary recesses of the centuries under discussion, and at the same time he contrives to give a touch of fresh interest to the dullest phases of his theme.

*Memorial volume
to Clarence King.*

The late Clarence King had a genius for friendship, as is attested by the memorial volume recently prepared by his friends, and published by the Messrs. Putnam for the Century Association. His literary baggage was of the slightest, for we may hardly describe as literature his geological papers or his work done for the Government survey of the Fortieth Parallel; but his personality seems to have made the deepest kind of an impression upon his associates. One volume bearing his name—his 'Mountaineering in the Sierra Nevada'—may indeed be fairly described as belonging to literature, and has recently been given the honors of a new edition.

The slight but charming sketch called 'The Helmet of Mambrino,' published in the 'Century' magazine, is also literature, and occupies the place of honor in the present memorial volume. But the greater part of the volume is given up to personal contributions embodying reminiscences of its subject. That these papers are highly readable is sufficiently attested by the names of their writers, among whom are included Messrs. John Hay, W. D. Howells, Henry Adams, John La Farge, E. C. Stedman, W. C. Brownell, Edward Cary, and D. C. Gilman. A formal biography by Mr. R. W. Raymond, some memorabilia by Mr. James D. Hague, and a technical paper on King as a geologist by Mr. S. F. Emmons, complete the contents of this interesting and beautifully-printed book. There are also a number of illustrations, mainly portraits of King at various ages and in various surroundings.

*Rossetti as an
English Man
of Letters.*

If Mr. Arthur Benson's volume on Rossetti in the 'English Men of Letters' series (Macmillan) has very little of the fascination belonging to other biographies of the poet-painter, the absence of this quality is deliberate. Mr. Benson gives hearty assent to the statement that Rossetti's life has been treated by previous biographers 'too much in the Pre-Raphaelite manner.' Vast masses of detail have been presented, interesting in themselves but obscuring the central figure; and the morbid and decadent elements of Rossetti's character have been emphasized almost to the exclusion of his brave and genial manliness. No doubt this is quite true, and perhaps nobody could have written a brief and business-like biography of Rossetti, treating him as an English Man of Letters, any more satisfactorily than Mr. Benson has done. In his biographical chapters, readers of the Memoir, the Letters, and the Diaries will feel a certain lack of environment and atmosphere, a dimness of outline, a cautious verbal accuracy, that leaves them cold where they were wont to be most enthusiastic. Equally painstaking and far more satisfactory are the expository chapters dealing with the poems, translations, and pictures. Mr. Benson is a keen analyst, an appreciative and illuminating critic. For the facts about Rossetti and a clear presentation of his work one need not go further than this volume, whose disappointments are, after all, probably inevitable.

*History of
the beginnings
of Music.*

To trace a history of the beginnings of music, from the vague researches of antiquarians, and from personal investigations of rock carvings, paintings, marbles and sculpture, papyri and parchments, etc., has been the laborious task of Mr. Hermann Smith in 'The World's Earliest Music' (Scribner). As music is bound up with the manners and lives of peoples and nations, its courses of development cannot rightly be judged apart from geography, ethnography, and history. The author of the present work has devoted a long life to his subject, especially to the instruments that made the music, their construction and scientific bearings and relations, practically and experimentally; thus it has happened, as he him-

self points out, that many advantages seldom combined have favored the pursuit of the investigations discursively related in the present volume. To those students of music who give to the art most sincere and earnest thought, Mr. Smith's work will undoubtedly appeal, as similar works have appealed before. A sequel to the present book is contemplated, to be entitled 'Our Musial Inheritance.'

BRIEFER MENTION.

Mr. Stephen Gwynn's little book on 'The Masters of English Literature,' published by the Macmillan Co., might find use as a school text-book, but its aim is rather to enlist the interests of readers, particularly young readers, in the subject for its own sake, when not considered as a form of taskwork. Mr. Gwynn writes pleasingly and intelligently about the 'obligatory authors,' as he calls them, the authors of whom 'no educated man in the English-speaking world can afford to profess entire ignorance.' The book is not overweighted with learning, and is agreeably diversified by the introduction of representative extracts from the authors considered.

The group of recent French writers who have turned their attention to the study of English literature have a faculty of finding interesting subjects which our own critics and historians seem to miss. The latest illustration of this proposition is offered by Dr. A. Barbeau's 'Une Ville d'Eaux Anglaise au XVIIIe Siècle' (Paris: Picard), further described as a study of 'La Société Élégante et Littéraire à Bath sous la Reine Anne et sous les Georges.' No one has done just this thing before, and M. Barbeau has now done it so well, basing his work upon so extensive an examination of source-material, that we fancy no one will be likely to try to better his example. The elaborate bibliography and index add greatly to the value of this interesting and scholarly production.

'Chinese Made Easy,' by Messrs. Walter Brooks Brouner and Fung Yuet Mow, is a publication of the Macmillan Co. We doubt very much the possibility of making the Chinese language really 'easy,' but this handsomely-printed book will be a boon to students who are forced to acquire Chinese for missionary or mercantile purposes. It has been printed in Leyden, and the last page is the first. Professor Herbert A. Giles contributes a preface, and assures his readers that whoever masters the contents of the book 'will find himself well advanced on the road towards a good acquaintance with the Chinese language.'

The Progressive Printing Co., New York, publishes in a limited edition a thin volume of 'Gedichte von Georg Sylvester Viereck,' prefaced by a critical appreciation from the hand of Mr. Ludwig Lewisohn. Herr Viereck is a young man of twenty, born in Munich of German-American parentage, and since 1897 a student in the schools of this country. His work is certainly remarkable, and we have read with interest every line of his volume. It has color, passion, music, and imagination. It is verse shaped by the German influence of Heine and the English influence of Mr. Swinburne—not always to wholesome effect, we regret to say. One of the poems, at least, carries the expression of sensualism beyond what is permissible, and others are morbid in tendency. But we repeat that the work is remarkable, and promises much for its author's future.

NOTES.

A new and revised edition of the old morality play, 'The Life and Repentance of Marie Magdalene,' edited by Prof. Frederic Ives Carpenter, is announced by the University of Chicago Press.

It seems that the late Augustus C. Buell, at the time of his death last summer, had just completed an elaborate biography of Andrew Jackson, and the work will be published by Messrs. Scribner during the coming month.

A new edition of 'Barnes' Popular History of the United States,' revised to date, and including illustrations of the Panama Canal and the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, has been prepared by Messrs. A. S. Barnes & Co.

An edition for school use, of Tocqueville's 'L'Ancien Régime,' is published by Mr. Henry Frowde. Mr. G. W. Headlam is the editor, supplying an English introduction and notes to the French text and notes of the author.

An illustrated edition of 'The Maiden and Married Life of Mary Powell' and 'Deborah's Diary,' with an introduction by the Rev. W. H. Hutton and drawings by Messrs. John Jellicoe and Herbert Railton, is among the recent importations of the Messrs. Dutton.

'British Poets of the Nineteenth Century' is the title of a work, to be published at once by Messrs. Benj. H. Sanborn & Co., designed to supply in a single volume all the material required by students in school courses devoted to English poetry of the nineteenth century.

A new and enlarged edition of 'The Study of Henry Esmond,' designed as an aid to the proper appreciation of Thackeray's novel, has just appeared in the 'Study-Guide Series,' prepared and published by H. A. Davidson. This useful series will be issued from Cambridge, Mass., in the future, instead of from Albany as heretofore.

The H. W. Wilson Co. issues 'The Constitutions and Other Select Documents Illustrative of the History of France, 1789-1901,' as chosen and translated by Professor Frank Maloy Anderson. The selection is comprehensive, filling over six hundred pages, and will be found of great usefulness by students of modern history and political science.

'Japan Described by Great Writers' (Dodd, Mead & Co.) is a compilation recently made by Miss Esther Singleton. It deals with the various aspects of the country; its physical features; its customs and industries. The selections are interesting and the book as a whole furnishes one with an easy and convenient means of learning what Pierre Loti, Sir Edwin Arnold, and other writers of lesser note have had to say about Japan.

'The New Star Chamber and Other Essays,' by Mr. Edgar Lee Masters, is sent us by the Hammersmark Publishing Co. It is a collection of forcibly written essays upon political subjects, containing much sound doctrine upon imperialism and the dangerous present centralizing trend in our government. We regret that the effect of this excellent writing should be marred by the excessive radicalism evoked by other subjects, and by an occasional intemperance of statement.

Following the recent assignment of the Lothrop Publishing Company comes the announcement that the entire assets and good-will of this corporation have been purchased by Messrs. Lee & Shepard, and that the business of the two houses will be combined under the title of The Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Company. The affairs of the new corporation will be under the direction of Mr. War-

ren F. Gregory, for the past six years manager for Messrs. Lee & Shepard. The two houses concerned in this amalgamation have always made a distinct speciality of books for the young, and their combined resources will now give them the strongest list of juvenile literature offered by any house in the trade.

Lovers of the Brownings and of Italy will hardly fail to welcome the forthcoming volume entitled 'Florence in the Poetry of the Brownings,' in which Mrs. Anna B. McMahan has brought together the poems of Mr. and Mrs. Browning having to do with the art and history of Florence. Numerous illustrations from photographs and an introduction by the compiler are included in the volume, which will be published early next month by Messrs. A. C. McClurg & Co.

Two volumes of considerable interest to students of American literature are included in Messrs. Scribner's Autumn list. One of the two is a biographical, critical, and illustrative treatment of the 'Literary Leaders of America,' prepared by Mr. Richard Burton. The other is a 'History of American Literature,' by Prof. Barrett Wendell and Mr. C. N. Greenough,—a revised and abridged adaptation, for the use of high schools and colleges, of Prof. Wendell's well-known 'Literary History of America.'

The prevailing interest in American historical sources finds new expression in a series projected by the A. Wessels Co., under the editorship of Mr. Rufus Rockwell Wilson, to comprise annotated reprints of the most valuable and interesting items of rare Americana. The first three volumes, now nearly ready, consist of Andrew Burnaby's 'Travels through the Middle Settlements of North America, 1759-1760,' William Heath's 'Memoirs of the American War,' and a revised and enlarged edition of W. W. Canfield's 'Legends of the Iroquois.' The volumes will include so far as possible fac-similes of the original illustrations and maps, and will be issued at a moderate price.

The Thirteenth International Peace Congress will be held in Boston the first week of October. Judging from the preliminary announcements already made, the gathering will be one of exceptional importance. The foreign delegates certainly form a distinguished company, including, among many others, such eminent persons as Sir John Macdonell, Mr. Gustave Hubbard, M. Charles Wagner, Count Albert Apponyi, the Bishops of Hereford and Ripon, Mr. W. R. Cremer, Professor Quidde, M. Emile Arnaud, Professor Langlois, Dr. Adolph Richter, and the Baroness von Suttner. Among the distinguished Americans who will take part in the programme are Messrs. Andrew D. White, John Hay, and Oscar C. Straus. Reduced rates are offered by nearly all the railways.

The 'Letters from an American Farmer' which was published in London more than a century ago by J. Hector St. John Crèvecoeur, has been, if not exactly a forgotten book, at least an unduly neglected one. The work certainly deserves the resuscitation that has now been given it by Messrs. Fox, Duffield & Co., who have made a handsome reprint of the original London edition. Professor W. P. Trent, in his 'American Literature,' first revived our interest in this book, and he now writes an introduction for the edition, which has otherwise been prepared by Mr. Ludwig Lewinsohn. The editor has also done what he could to reconstruct the life of the author, but the facts preserved concerning him make only a meagre showing. There is an appendix of letters written by and about him to no less a personage than Benjamin Franklin.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF FALL BOOKS.

Herewith is presented The Dial's list of books announced for publication this Fall,—as usual the earliest comprehensive and classified information given to the public regarding the important forthcoming books of the present season. Entry is here made of more than twelve hundred titles, representing the season's output of sixty leading American publishers. The list has been prepared from advance information secured especially for this purpose. All the books entered are presumably new books—new editions not being included unless having new form or matter; and, with a few necessary exceptions, the list does not include Fall books already issued and entered in our regular List of New Books. While no attempt has been made to include titles as titles merely, regardless of their significance or interest to our readers, yet it is believed that no really important book is missing from this list. Some of the more interesting features of the list are commented on in the leading editorial in this issue of The Dial.

BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIRS.

- Autobiography, Memories, and Experiences of Moncure Daniel Conway, 2 vols., illus.—Bits of Gossip, by Rebecca Harding Davis. (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)
- Recollections and Letters of General Lee, by Captain Robert E. Lee, illus. in photogravure, etc., \$2.50 net.—A Belle of the Fifties, memoirs of social and political life at Washington and the South, 1853-66, by Mrs. Clay of Alabama, gathered and edited by Ada Sterling, illus. in color, etc., \$2.75 net. (Doubleday, Page & Co.)
- Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet and thinker, by Elisabeth Luther Cary, illus. in photogravure, \$3.50 net.—Heroes of the Nations series, new vols.: Wellington, soldier and statesman, and the revival of the military power of England, by William O'Connor Morris; Constantine the Great, the re-organization of the Empire and the triumph of the Church, by J. B. Firth; illus., each \$1.35 net.—Heroes of the Reformation series, new vol.: Thomas Cranmer, the English reformer, 1489-1556, by Albert Frederick Pollard, illus.—The Great Frenchman and the Little Genevaese, trans. from Etienne Dumont's 'Souvenir sur Mirabeau' by Lady Seymour, illus., \$2.50 net.—Marjorie Fleming, the story of Pet Marjorie, together with her journals and letters, to which is added Dr. John Brown's tale of Marjorie Fleming, illus. in color, etc. (G. P. Putnam's Sons.)
- Forty-Five Years under the Flag, by Winfield Scott Schley, Rear Admiral, U. S. N., illus., \$3 net.—My Literary Life, by Madame Adam (Juliette Lamber), with portraits, \$2.50 net. (D. Appleton & Co.)
- An Irishman's Story, by Justin McCarthy, illus., \$2.50 net.—Reminiscences of Peace and War, by Mrs. Roger A. Pryor, illus.—English Men of Letters series, new vols.: Adam Smith, by Francis W. Hirst; Jane Austen, by H. C. Beeching; Sydney Smith, by George W. E. Russell; Thomas Moore, by Stephen Gwynn; Mrs. Gaskell, by Clement K. Shorter; Andrew Marvell, by Augustine Birrell; each 75 cts. net.—Memories of a Hundred Years, by Edward Everett Hale, new edition in 1 vol., with 3 additional chapters, illus.—The Making of an American, by Jacob Riis, new and cheaper edition. (Macmillan Co.)
- Thackeray in the United States, by Gen. James Grant Wilson, 2 vols., illus., \$12.50 net.—Life of Honoré de Balzac, by Mary P. Sanders, with frontispiece, \$2. net.—Behind the Footlights, by Mrs. Alec Tweedie, illus., \$1. net.—The American Jurists series, edited by Harry Alonzo Cushing, first vols.: Thomas M. Cooley, by Henry Wade Rogers; William Pinckney, by John Hassett Moore; each \$2. net.—Modern English Writers series, new vol.: Browning, by C. H. Herford, \$1 net.—The Romance of Isabel, Lady Burton, told in part by herself and in part by W. H. Wilkins, new and cheaper edition in one vol., illus., \$3.50. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)
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